

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 00637 120938Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 0637

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)
SUBJECT: SECVISIT - CURRENT PLANNING

REF: BEIRUT 0576

1. MESSAGE PLANNING. IN ADDITION TO DAILY INTELLIGENCE SITREPS,
SPOT REPORTS ON IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS AND RESPONSES TO FURTHER
DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS, WE PLAN SEND FOLLOWING MESSAGE PRIOR
TO ARRIVAL OF SECRETARY:

A. FEB 15 - DETAILED SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS;
B. FEB 15 - DETAILED PRESS ARRANGEMENTS;

2. SCENARIO DEVELOPMENTS.

A. ARRIVAL AT BAABDA. SECRETARY AND PARTY WILL BE MET AT
ENTRANCE TO PALACE BY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL OF THE PRESIDENCY
AMBASSADOR MICHEL FARAH AND A MILITARY AIDE TO PRESIDENT SARKIS.

B. MEETING WITH SARKIS. GOL HAS AGREED TO PARTICIPATION
OF MESSRS. HABIB AND ATHERTON AS WELL AS INTERPRETER
TOUMAYAN AT MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SARKIS. HOWEVER,
GIVEN 1) ORIGINAL CONCEPT OF SARKIS, ACCORDING TO WHICH
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MEETING WOULD BE INTIMATE AND VERY SMALL (WITH ONLY
SECRETARY VANCE AND AMBASSADOR ON US SIDE), AND 2)
SARKIS DESIRE THAT THERE BE NO REPEAT NO NOTETAKER
AT MEETING, GOL NOW PREFERS THAT DCM LANE NOT BE PRESENT.
EMBASSY THEREFORE BELIEVES THAT DCM SHOULD NOT ATTEND.
REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE. (ALTERNATIVELY,
AMBASSADOR PARKER COULD PREPARE MEMORANDUM AFTER THE

MEETING.) AGENDA PROPOSALS BY FONMIN BOUTROS SENT SEPTTEL.

C. PLENARY SESSION. STAFF MEMBER TARNOFF EXPECTED TO ATTEND. FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS EXPECTS TO CHAIR THIS MEETING UNTIL WITHDRAWAL OF GROUP TO SEE PRESIDENT SARKIS, BUT WITHOUT AN AGENDA. AFTER PARTY SEEING PRESIDENT WITHDRAWS, MEETING WILL BE LED BY DIRGEN NAGIB DAHDAH. (NOTE: DAHDAH IS MORE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH CHRISTIAN-RIGHTIST KFUR FRONT LEADERS, ESPECIALLY CAMILLE CHAMOUN, THAN WITH THE SARKIS/HOSS/BOUTROS GOVERNMENT.) EMBOFFS LANE AND/OR MOLINEAUX WILL INTERPRET AS NECESSARY. GOL PARTICIPANTS, WHO ARE ALL FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, AFTER WITHDRAWAL OF GROUP TO SEE PRESIDENT, WILL BE: NAGIB DAHDAH, SECRETARY GENERAL; ANTOINE FATTAL, DIRECTOR OF BUREAU FOR RESEARCH; ADEL ISMAEL, DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS; KHALIL HADDAD, BIRECTOR OF BUREAU FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS; AMBASSADOR KHALIL ITANI, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO ALGIERS (AND PROBABLE SUCCESSOR TO ISMAEL); AND PROTOCOL CHIEF HAMIEH. ONLY ITANI AND HADDAD SPEAK GOOD ENGLISH. ALL ARE FLUENT IN FRENCH.

D. LUNCHEON. GOL HAS EXTREMELY LIMITED HOUSEHOLD RESOURCES AT BAABDA PALACE, THEREFORE REGRETS THAT IT CAN INVITE TO LUNCHEON ONLY THE OFFICIAL US PARTY OF SEVEN PLUS AMB PARKER. GOL OFFICIALS AT LUNCHEON WILL INCLUDE ONLY PRESIDENT SARKIS, PRIME MINISTER AL-HOSS, FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS, CHIEF OF PROTOCOL HAMIEH, AND EITHER DIRECTOR CONFIDENTIAL

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GENERAL OF THE PRESIDENCY CARLOS KHOURY OR PRESIDENTIAL CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AMBASSADOR MICHEL FARAH. OFFICIALS AT THE PLENARY SESSION, EXCEPT FOR BOUTROS AND POSSIBLY HAMIEH, WILL NOT RPT NOT BE AT LUNCHEON. ASSUMING WE SUCCEED IN PERSUADING GOL OF IMPORTANCE OF INTERPRETER TOUMAYAN, HE WILL SIT BEHIND SECRETARY VANCE AND PRESIDENT SARKIS, WILL EAT NO LUNCH. STAFF MEMBER TARNOFF WILL BE TRANSPORTED TO AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AT YARZE FOR LUNCH.

E. DEPARTURE FROM BAABDA. PRESIDENT GOL PLAN IS FOR ONLY FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS TO ACCOMPANY SECRETARY AND PARTY TO THE FRONT DOOR.

3. PRESS ARRANGEMENTS. TEMPORARY PAO MALIK IS ON SCENE. WE NOW HAVE AGREEMENT THAT TRAVELING PRESS GROUP WILL BE PERMITTED TO ENTER BAABDA PALACE. THEY WILL BE ALLOWED TO PHOTOGRAPH, BUT NOT RPT NOT TO ASK QUESTIONS OF GOL OFFICIALS. THERE IS ALSO POSSIBILITY THAT THREE U.S. TELEVISION NETWORKS WILL BE ALLOWED TWO-MAN CREW EACH

INTO PALACE. WILL ADVISE (SEPTTEL FOLLOWS).

4. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. SY AGENT MCCARTHY IS ON SCENE. MAJOR MEETING WITH PALACE SECURITY OFFICIALS SCHEDULED FOR MORNING OF FEB 14 (SEPTELS FOLLOW).

5. RE HOWELL/LANE TELECON FEB 11 ON PRESENTATION OF VALOR AWARD TO EMBASSY BEIRUT, BELIEVE THIS SHOULD BE WHEN GOL OFFICIALS ARE NOT REPEAT NOT PRESENT. ONLY OPPORTUNITY WE CAN SEE IS JUST PRIOR TO SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE. SUGGEST AMBASSADOR PARKER MIGHT ENTER AIRCRAFT WITH THE SECRETARY, RECEIVE AWARD AND THEN DISEMBARK.

6. COMMUNICATIONS. IN VIEW OF STATE 017964 AND STATE 026850, INDICATING ALL CABLE TRAFFIC TO AND FROM SECRETARY'S PARTY WILL BE HANDLED BY AIRCRAFT, ASSUME CONFIDENTIAL

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INSTRUCTIONS IN STATE 017976 ON COMMUNICATIONS CABLE TRAFFIC DO NOT RPT NOT APPLY TO BEIRUT. PLEASE ADVISE.
LANE

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